

Highlights from the Board of Education Meeting May 26, 2000

Consent Agenda

- Final Review of Recommendations Concerning Release of Literary Fund Loans for Placement on Waiting List
- Final Review of Recommendations Concerning Applications for Literary Fund Loans
- Final Review of Financial Report on Literary Fund

Resolutions and Recognitions

- Resolution of Recognition presented to Dr. Mark A. Edwards, Superintendent of Henrico County Public Schools and Superintendent of the Year
- Resolutions of Appreciation presented to the members of the Standards of Learning Committees for Music, Visual Arts, Theatre Arts, and Dance Arts
- Resolution honoring Ms. Peggy Baggett, Executive Director for the Virginia Commission for the Arts

Discussion and Action Items

ITEM	ACTION	COMMENTS
Final Review of Proposed Standards of Learning in: Music Visual Arts Theatre Arts Dance Arts	The proposed Standards of Learning in Music, Visual Arts, Theatre Arts, and Dance Arts were considered as a block and adopted unanimously.	In April 1999, the Board of Education approved a plan to revise the Standards of Learning (SOL) in Music and the Arts during the 1999-2000 academic year. In January 2000, the Board approved the revised SOL for public comment and public hearings. Public hearings were conducted in five regions in the Commonwealth on April 3, 2000. Testimony from these hearings and written comments submitted during the public comment period were reviewed and analyzed. Appropriate revisions were incorporated into the proposed documents presented to the Board for final review.
First Review of a Request by Winchester City Public Schools for Board of	Waiver of first review and adoption.	The school board for the City of Winchester requested approval to add a science course entitled Chemistry 2 for credit towards graduation requirements in laboratory science for an

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Education Approval of a Chemistry Course to Satisfy Graduation Requirements		Advanced Studies Diploma effective with the 2000-2001 school year. Chemistry 1 and Chemistry 2 are offered over two years in Winchester, and the Chemistry end-of-course SOL test will be taken by students following completion of the second year of the course.
First Review of Request for increased Graduation Requirements by Bedford County Public Schools	Waiver of first review and denial.	The school board of Bedford County submitted a request for additional graduation requirements in the form of four mandatory sequential credits in vocational or fine arts electives for students seeking a Standard Diploma. The proposal is not consistent with the Board of Education guidelines for requests for additional graduation credit requirements adopted in June 1998.
First Review of Proposed Bylaws for the Board of Education	The Board discussed each article of the bylaws. The bylaws are subject to further consideration by the Board and possible amendments and revisions prior to final adoption at the July 27 Board meeting.	<p>Article 3, Section 1, of the proposed bylaws was amended to designate the first meeting after February 1 as the annual meeting of the Board when elections for President and Vice-President will take place.</p> <p>Article 3, Section 4, of the proposed bylaws were amended to require that all Board of Education meetings take place in Virginia.</p> <p>A proposed new article of the bylaws is Article Ten: the establishment of a Student Advisory Committee. The article contains the requirement for a standing Student Advisory Committee to the Board. The proposed committee would consist of 12 students at the junior or senior grade level in Virginia public schools, one member from each of the Superintendents Regions, and four members-at-large. The membership of the Student Advisory Committee would also include the President of the Board, the Secretary, and two members of the Board appointed by the President. Student members are to be selected by a committee of the Board appointed by the President.</p>

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		The Student Advisory Committee would meet at least four times a year, with one meeting to coincide with a regularly scheduled Board meeting.
Final Review of the Proposed Standards of Learning for Computer/Technology to be completed by the end of grade 12	Standards of Learning for Computer/Technology adopted.	A public hearing on the proposed Computer Technology Standards of Learning to be completed by the end of grade 12 was held on February 24, 2000. At that public hearing the Board of Education extended the time period for public comment until May 12, 2000.
First Review of Plan of Action for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth in Virginia	First review waived, and plan of action adopted.	The plan of action developed by the Department of Education and Project HOPE provides alternative approaches to reduce public school enrollment barriers faced by homeless children and youth in Virginia. In addition to issues of residency and health records addressed by legislation adopted during the 2000 General Assembly, the plan addresses birth certificates and social security numbers; guardianship and transportation issues; expediting immunization records retrieval; and dispute resolution.
Report of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL) to the Board of Education	The Board received the report for information purposes.	At its June meeting, the Board will receive specific recommendations from ABTEL for: (1) qualifying scores for middle school content assessments in English, mathematics, science, and social studies; (2) qualifying scores for school leaders licensure assessments for principals and supervisory personnel; and (3) continued accreditation of the teacher education programs at Virginia State University.
Report on the Budget Actions of the 2000 General Assembly	The Board received the report for information purposes.	The 2000-2002 budget approved by the General Assembly will increase state funding for public education by more than \$700 million in the 2000-2002 biennium. The total budget for all education programs will be approximately \$4.5 billion annually.
Public Comment Period	Three speakers provided	

<i>ITEM</i>	<i>ACTION</i>	<i>COMMENTS</i>
	comments concerning the proposed revision to the Board of Education Standards of Accreditation to require a mandatory daily recess period in elementary schools.	